"I CURSE MY FATE...

...AND I CURSE THE GOD WHO DAMNED ME!"

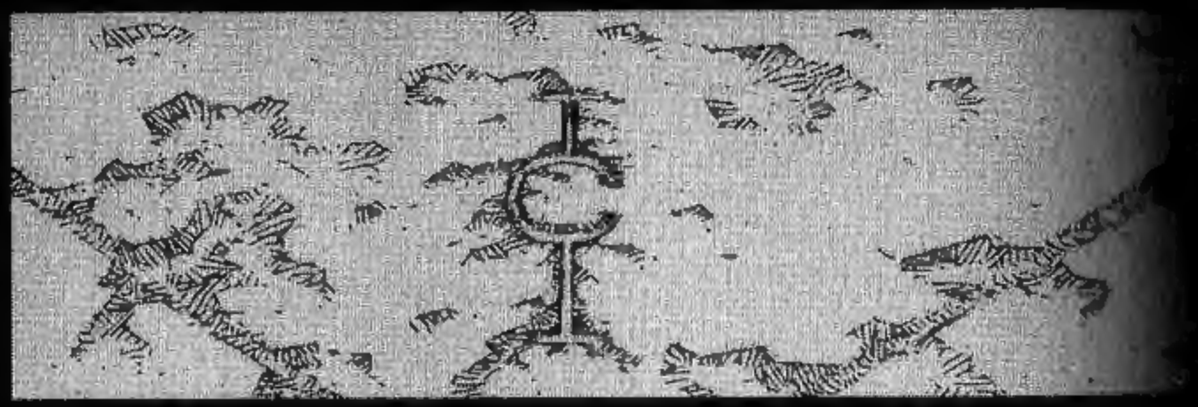
MAYBE...

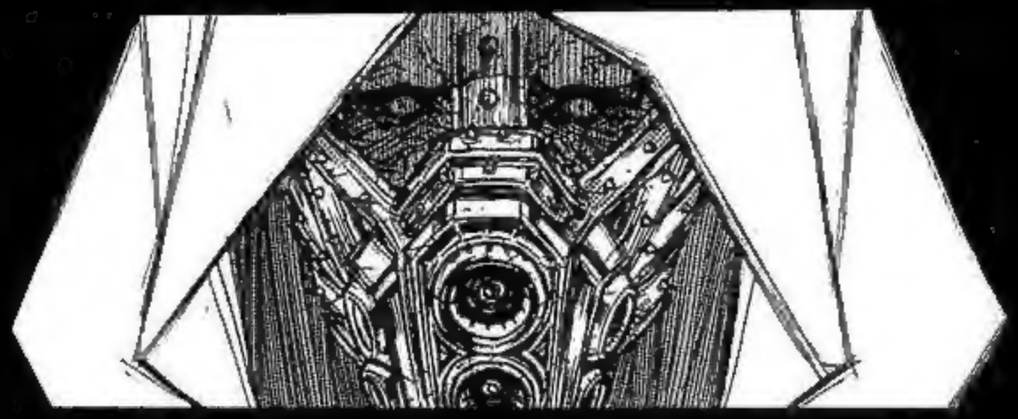
...I...

...WAS... WRONG.

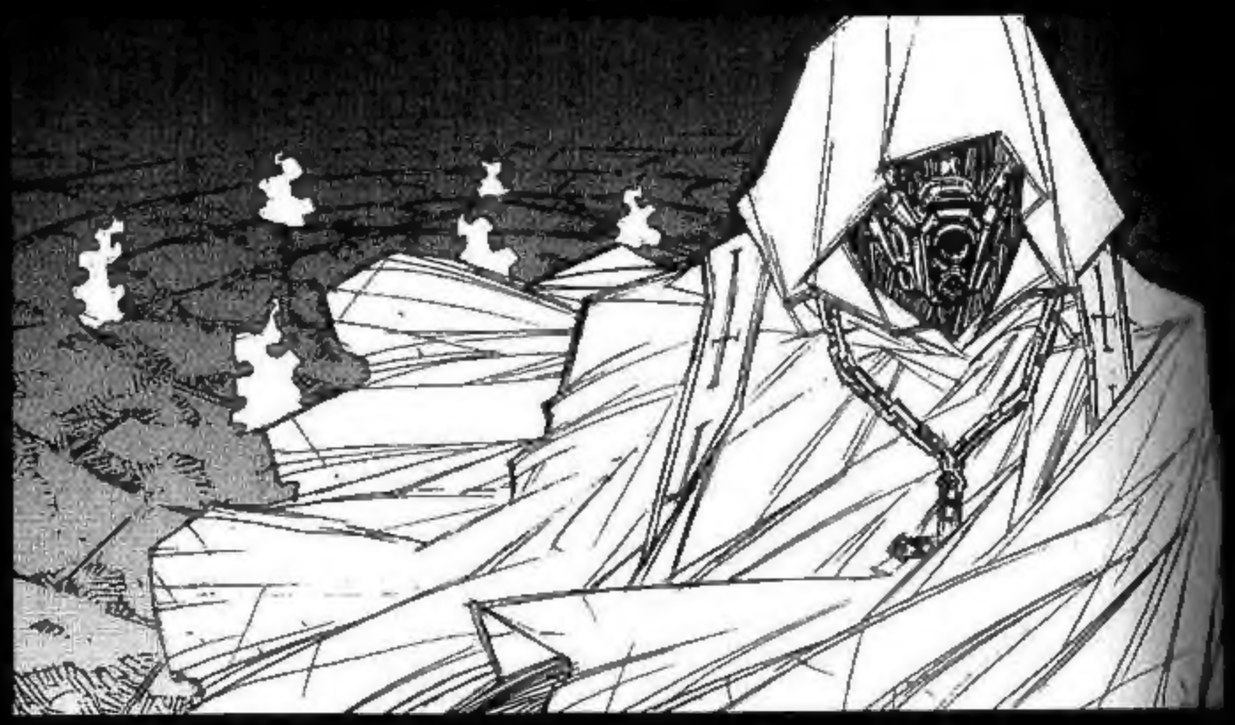
THE ONE WHO NEEDED CONVINCING WASN'T ME...

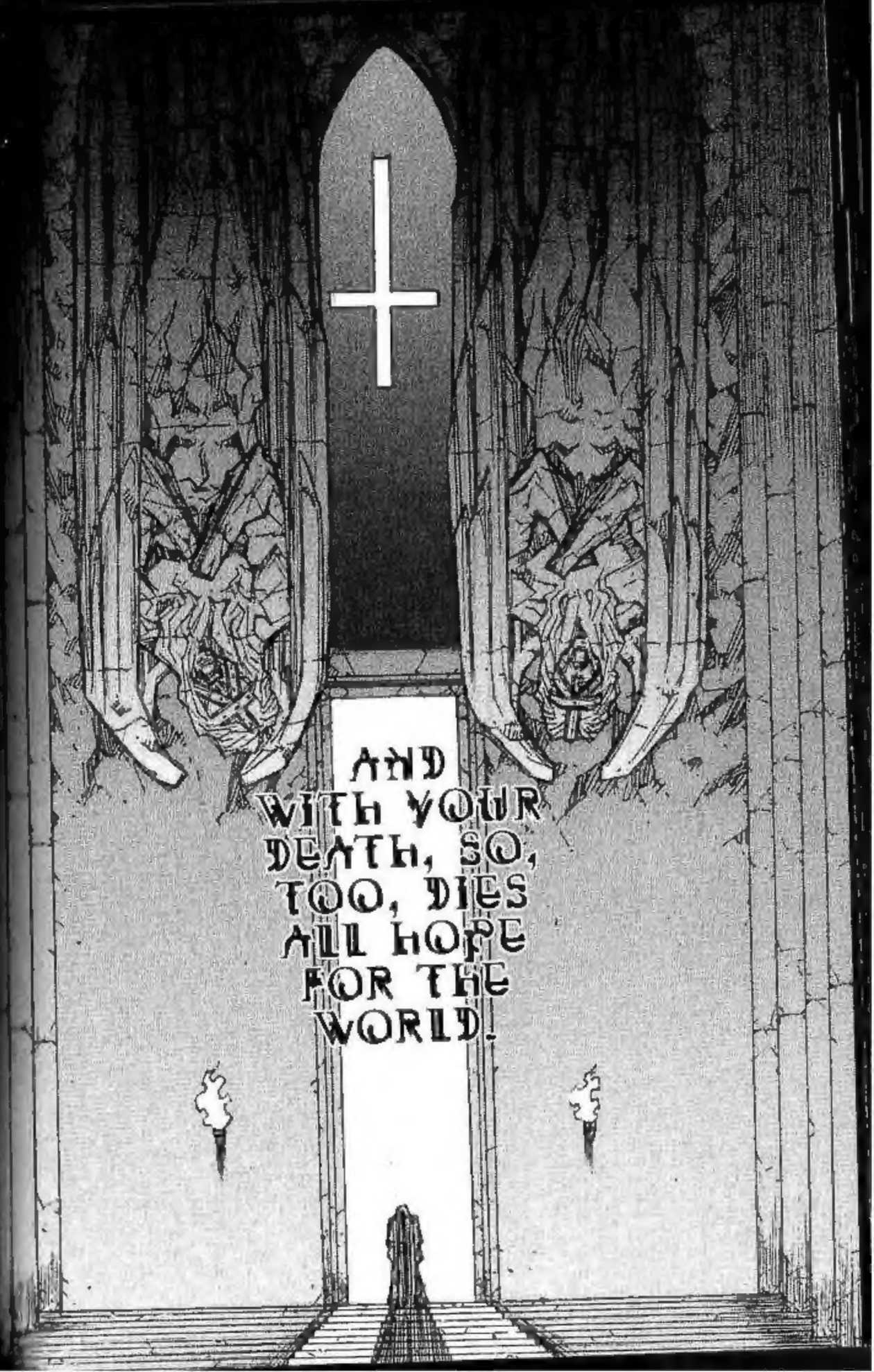
...IT WAS *YOU.*





SO QUICKLY AND WITHOUT REMORSE DID THE HUMANS END YOUR MORTAL LIFE.





AND WITH YOUR DEATH, SO, TOO, DIES ALL HOPE FOR THE WORLD.

THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME UNTO ME, SAYING, WHEN I BRING THE SWORD UPON A LAND...

BUT HE THAT TAKETH WARNING, I SHALL DELIVER HIS SOUL.

I SAY UNTO THE WICKED, O WICKED MAN, THOU SHALT SURELY DIE!

I WILL LAY THY CITIES TO WASTE, AND THOU SHALT BE DESOLATE, AND THOU SHALT KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD.

AND I WILL FILL THY MOUNTAINS WITH SLAIN MEN: IN THY HILLS, AND IN THY VALLEYS, AND IN ALL THY RIVERS...

...WATERS SHALL RUN RED WITH THE BLOOD OF THOSE SLAIN WITH THE SWORD.

TO THE HOLY FLOCK, THE FLOCK OF JERUSALEM, THE LORD SAID...

...I WILL TAKE YOU FROM AMONG THE HEATHEN, AND WILL BRING YOU INTO YOUR OWN LAND.

IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER...

...AND OF THE SON...

...AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT...

AMEN!

CLANG!

CLANG!

CLANG!

CLANG!

CLANG!

CLANG!

CLANG!

WA GA...

CLANG!

CLANG!

SON OF A...

DIDN'T YOU HEAR MR. DUDLEY SAY NOT TO--?

I DIDN'T SEND ANY-ONE.

CLANG!

BANG! BANG!

SANTIAGO! IS THAT YOU?

BANG!

OPEN UP, THIS INSTANT!

CROCK!

!!

CLICK

CLICK

CLICK

...

I MUST HAVE SEEN THIS SCENE AT LEAST A DOZEN TIMES SINCE BECOMING A MARSHAL...

...BUT I STILL CAN'T GET USED TO IT.

YOU BUILD A FENCE AROUND YOUR TOWN AND THINK YOU CAN KEEP OUT ALL THE EVIL OUTSIDERS.

BUT THE TRUTH IS, THE MOST EVIL MEN YOU'LL FIND ARE THE ONES WHO LIVE INSIDE THE WALLS.

...TALE IN THE ...OWN ...THINK ...THIS...

...AND IT SURE AS HELL WON'T BE THE LAST.

BUT THAT DON'T CHANGE THE FACT...

...THAT IGNORANT FUCKS LIKE YOU MAKE ME WANT TO PUKE.

COBURN... THIS IS A LOCAL MATTER. FEDERAL MARSHALS HAVE NO JURIS-DICTION.

CLOP CLOP

MR. DUDLEY!

I HAVE NO TIME TO EXPLAIN!!

THEY'RE ALREADY SURROUNDING HIS OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN!

YOU AGAIN? I THOUGHT YOU'D GIVEN UP...

...ON YOUR WILD STORIES?

YOU HAVE TO WARN THE CITIZENS BEFORE--

THERE'S NO TIME TO ARGUE!

!!

MR. DUDLEY...

H-HOW... COULD YOU...?

YOU'RE GOING TO HELL AND YOU'RE DRAGGING THIS VILLAGE ALONG WITH YOU!

NOW, NOW. THAT'S NO WAY FOR A MAN OF THE CLOTH TO SPEAK.

WE'RE ONLY TRYING TO PROTECT WHAT WE HAVE BUILT...

...FATHER.

...!!

YOU POOR FOOL...

!

JUMP

!!

WELL... I DON'T REALLY CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO THIS DAMN PLACE.

CO...

CO-BURN!!

FATHER.

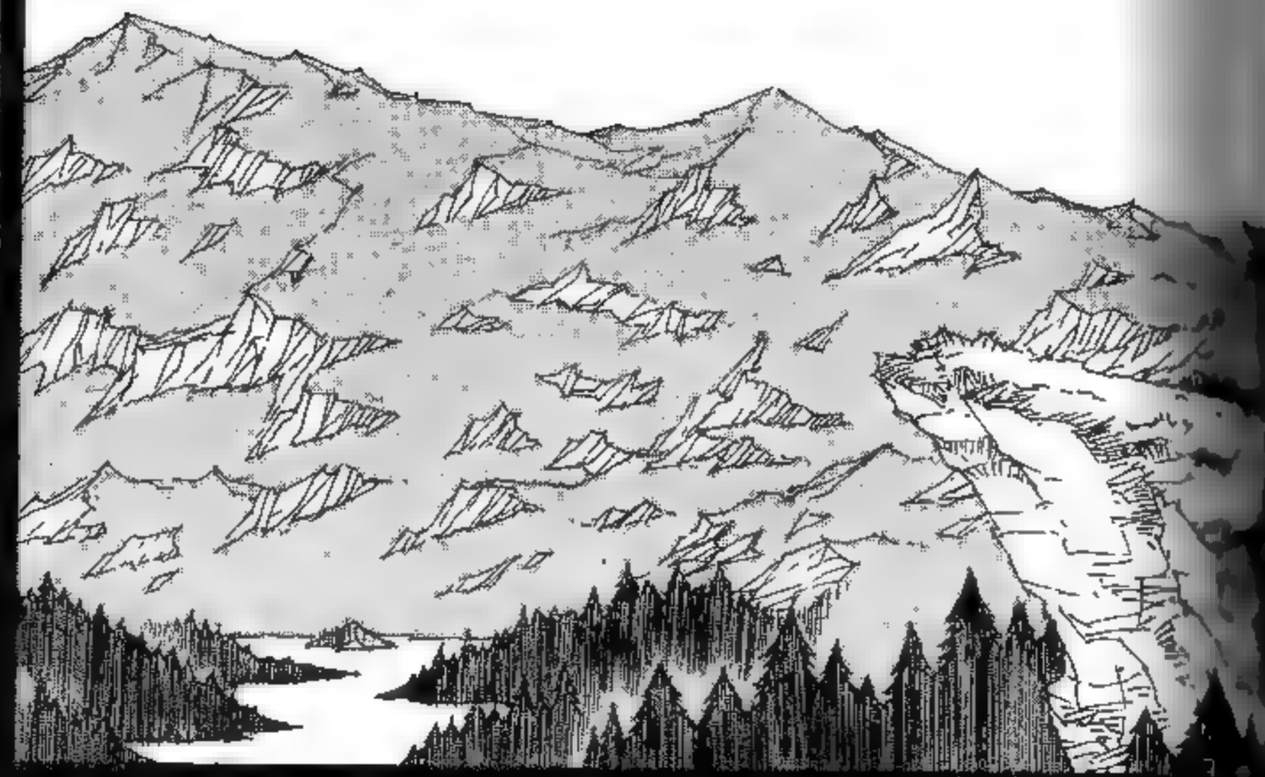
HAVEN'T I TOLD YOU ALREADY?

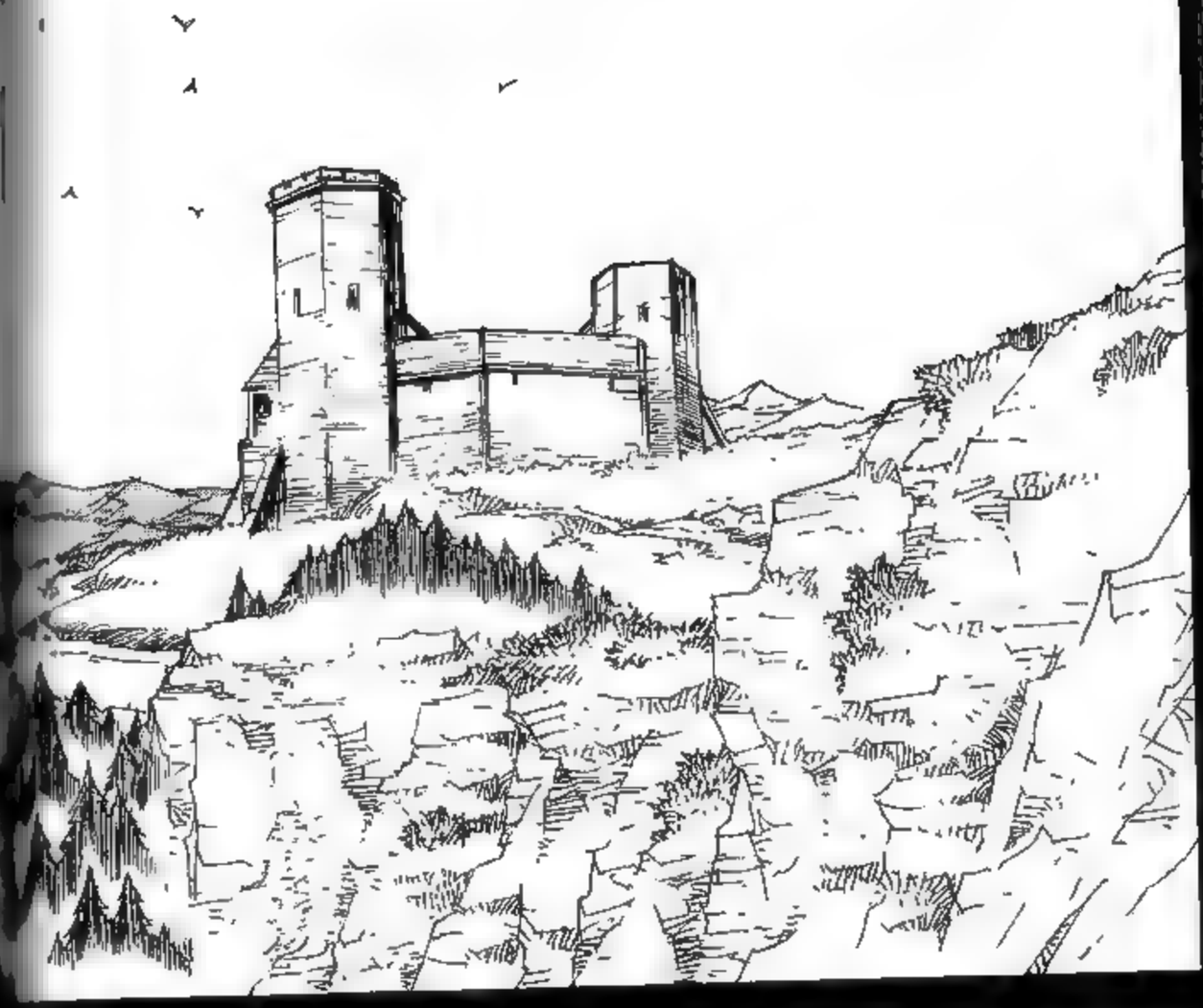
TO BE CONTINUED IN PRIEST 16!!

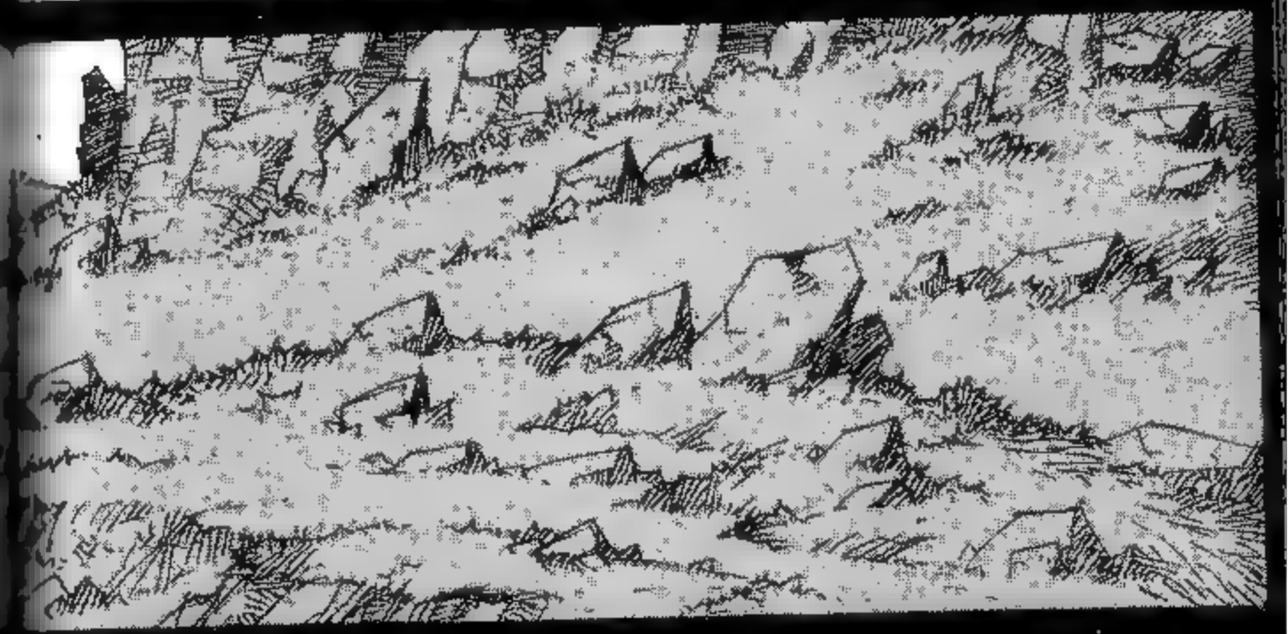
SIDE STORY

CRAZY MESSAGE

MANY YEARS AGO...







WOOF!

WOOF!

WOOF!

WOOF!

WOOF!

WOOF!

UNNGH

CLANK!

CLANK!

CLANK!

OH...

YOU CAME!

I HAD HEARD YOU WOULD BE COMING, BUT...

...I DIDN'T EXPECT IT TO BE SO SOON..

...BISHOP RAUL!

PRO-FESSOR GERARD!

I TOLD YOU NOT TO MENT ON HIS EMINENCE S NAME!

ENOUGH.

YOUR RESEARCH WILL NOT ONLY ASSIST THE ORDER OF ST VERTINEZ IN COMPLETING ITS CURRENT MISSION .

. BUT IT WILL LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR ALL OUR FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

PROFESSOR GERARD, UPON RECEIV NG YOUR MESSAGE FROM THE VATICAN.

..I CAME HERE AS QUICKLY AS I COU D SHOW ME YOUR FIND INGS AT ONCE

CREECAK

YOU CAN WAIT HERE.

I AM IN THE FINAL STAGES OF TESTING THE DRUGS.

THE RESULTS ARE QUITE PROMISING!

ALL THAT REMAINS IS TO...

...WEED OUT THOSE SUBJECTS WHO RESPOND FAVORABLY TO THE TREATMENT FROM THOSE WHO DON'T

PROFESSOR IT'S BASTON AGAIN.

DURING THE INJECTIONS, HE HAD ANOTHER OF HIS SPASMS.

HERE.

IT'S SAFER IF YOU WEAR THIS PROTECTIVE MASK.

I THINK I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF.

JUST BE ON YOUR GUARD

AS YOU CAN SEE

.....

RRRRRRRRR!!!

RRRAAAAGHHH!!!

AHHH...
AH...
H...

RRRROOOAR!!

GJAAAAH...

CRACCCCK

UNFORTUNATELY, MOST OF THE PRIESTS WHO VOLUNTEERED...

DID NOT SURVIVE PAST THE INITIAL TREATMENTS.

...I'M AFRAID.

TINK

EVEN MORE COULD NOT SURVIVE THE TENTH ROUND

STILL, IT GIVES US HOPE THAT

IT SEEMS THAT GOD HAS SPECIAL PLANS FOR THESE PRIESTS... UNLIKE THE OTHERS

THREE SUBJECTS ARE STILL GOING STRONG.

FSHH

FSHH

!

KRR...

GRRRR...

KRRRAAGHH!!

"REGENERATIVE ABILITIES HAVE ALREADY FAR SURPASSED NORMAL HUMAN CAPACITY.

GLUB

GLUB

GLUB

GLUB

NNGGH!!

ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE BASTON

AMONG THE SURVIVING PATIENTS, HE HAS WITHSTOOD THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF TREATMENTS AND THE HIGHEST DOSES.

DESPITE THE EXTREME PRESSURE ON HIS BODY ..

..HE HAS SURPASSED ALL OF OUR TESTS

LIKE HE SAID WHEN HE FIRST..

..VOLUNTEERED FOR OUR EXPERIMENT, GOD MUST HAVE GIVEN HIM AN EXTRAORDINARY BODY...

..FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY PURPOSE.

AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT HE SEEMS TO BELIEVE.

WE SHALL SEE IF HIS BELIEFS ARE TRUE SOON ENOUGH.

CLANK

REGARDLESS, I HOPE THAT *SOMEONE* CAN USE HIM FOR SOME GREAT PURPOSE.

COMPENSATION FOR THE SUFFERING HE MUST ENDURE, IF YOU WILL. HEE HEE...

PROFESSOR GERARD...

THE EXPERIMENTS BEING CONDUCTED IN THIS ABBEY WOULD, BY MOST PEOPLE, BE CONSIDERED *BLASPHEMOUS.*

DO YOU NOT KNOW WHY OUR ORDER HAS SUPPORTED YOUR WORK AND WHY OUR PRIESTS HAVE SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES AS TEST SUBJECTS?

IT'S BECAUSE WE HAVE *FAITH* IN OUR MISSION.

ONLY THEIR BELIEF IN GOD ALLOWS THEM TO ENDURE THIS AGONY.

I CANNOT MAKE YOU BELIEVE IN GOD...

...BUT I CAN, AT LEAST, ASK YOU TO RESPECT THEIR SACRIFICES.

HEH HEH... OF COURSE.

OF COURSE, I SHOULD.

THE ONLY OTHER BEING WHO WOULD SUPPORT MY WORK...

...WOULD HAVE TO BE THE DEVIL HIMSELF!!

CLUNK

JOSHUA!

IT'S BEEN FIVE YEARS.

DOES THE VOICE OF GOD...

...STILL RIP THROUGH YOUR EARS AND HEART?!

NO...

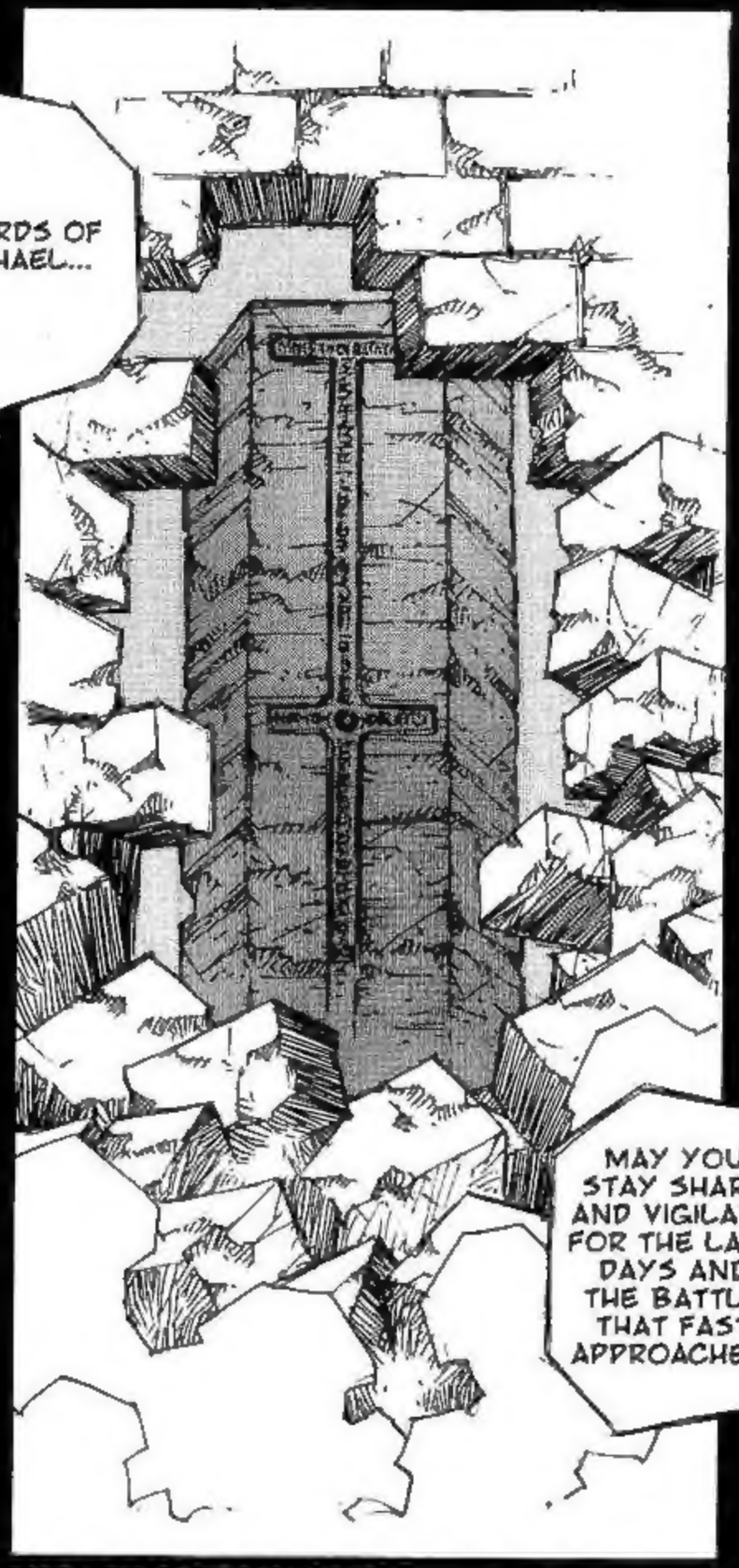
THAT ENDED LONG AGO.

THINGS BECAME CLEARER ONCE I CAME HERE.

THE EXPERIMENTS AND THE RESULTING PAIN HAVE REOPENED MY EYES AND EARS.

I NO LONGER FEAR LISTENING TO GOD'S VOICE...

...NOR DO I QUESTION EXECUTING HIS ORDERS.



END OF VOLUME 15

IVAN ISAACS WILL RETURN IN
PRIEST VOLUME 16: ZEALOT'S MARCH

IN WHICH THE ORDER OF ST. VERTINEZ DESCENDS UPON WINDTALE, PAST WRONGS ARE AVENGED AND THE PLAGUE OF ZOMBIES RETURNS.